

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 37, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A 100-ml three-necked flask equipped with a Teflon magnetic rotor was charged with 3.9 mg (0.015 mmole) of Rh(acac)(CO)₂ and 84.9 mg (0.15 mmole) of the 2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphinomethyl)diphenyl ether synthesized in Example 1, and further with 6 ml of toluene. The mixture was stirred at 50°C for 30 minutes to become a homogeneous catalyst solution. A 50-ml three-necked flask equipped with a Teflon magnetic rotor was charged with 3 ml of this catalyst solution and 27 ml (0.167 mole; purity: 93%) of 7-octen-1-al. The mixture was then fed to a 100-ml autoclave equipped with a gas inlet and a sampling port. The inside pressure was raised with the mixed gas to 3.0 Mpa. With stirring the inside temperature was raised to 85°C and reaction was effected for 6 hours, to obtain 20.6 g (0.132 mole; yield: 79%) of 1,9-nonenal and 4.2 g (0.027 mole; yield: 16%) of 2-methyl-1,8-octanediol. The conversion of 7-octen-1-al was 95% and the selectivities to n-aldehyde and iso-aldehyde were 83% and 18%, respectively. The n/iso ratio was 4.88. No side reactions such as hydrogenation and isomerization were observed.